

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	68259	Agenda Number	21.
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Meeting Date:	4/13/2017	Department:	Watershed Protection
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Subject

Approve a resolution authorizing the negotiation and execution of a Multiple Use Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to permit the construction, maintenance, and operation of a Flood Early Warning System beacon in the SH130 right-of-way approaching Fallwell Lane. (District 2)

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Jorge Morales, 512-974-7298; Allison Dietzel-Peary, 512-974-7098; Karl McArthur, 512-974-9126; Kathryn Potenza-Arnold, 512-974-7182; Lucy Thompson; 512-974-7967
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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
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MBE / WBE:	
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

This Multiple Use Agreement (MUA) will allow the City of Austin to construct, operate, and maintain a Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) beacon in the SH130 right-of-way approaching Fallwell Lane. The purpose of the installation of the FEWS beacons, one within TxDOT right-of-way and two within City right-of-way, will be to provide a flashing light warning of flooding danger to vehicular traffic along the SH130 frontage road and Fallwell Lane, approaching the Onion Creek and Colorado River area.

The warning beacons are to be installed in large part to support flood warning notification efforts for the staff of the South Austin Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant and the Sand Hill Energy Center. Access to these facilities is cut off when Onion Creek begins to overflow across Fallwell Lane to the Colorado River. Such overflows occurred during both the October 31, 2013 and October 30, 2015 "Halloween" Floods.

The Flood Early Warning System monitors rainfall, water levels and low water crossings in the Austin area 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. During a flood, the team works closely with emergency managers for the most effective and timely community response. FEWS maintains a network of 130 rain or creek gauges, flashing light beacons or automated barricades at 15 low water crossings, cameras at low water crossings, and predictive modeling and mapping.